URBAN STUDIES (URB)

URB 201  Mission Shift Institute I 3 credits
This course introduces students to south Minneapolis, exposing them to the issues and topics they will study in greater detail in other U4C courses.

URB 202  Mission Shift Institute II 3 credits
This course continues the introduction of students to south Minneapolis, exposing them to the issues and topics they will study in greater detail in other U4C courses.

URB 310  Principles of Urban Ministry 3 credits
This course is intended to provide the learner with an introduction to theory and methodology of urban ministry from a Biblical perspective. An overview of the history, theological trends, leadership and future of urban service, with attention to Biblical principles for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of urban service and designs will be covered to give the students a greater understanding of urban service.

URB 320  History and Contemporary Issues 3 credits
This class is designed to give students a thorough understanding of the history and development of Minneapolis as well as its current trends and challenges. It gives the student and in-depth understanding of the milieu in which he or she will be studying the rest of the urban classes. The course will be taught using various learning methods including reading, lectures, discussions, research, writing, field trips, media presentations and guest speakers. As in integrative approach, the students will engage in a combination of classroom preparations, field experience and post-experience analysis, creating a critical reference point for the student to deepen his or her Christian worldview, cross-cultural engagement, and understanding of diverse social and cultural contexts.

URB 330  Demographics and Research Methods 3 credits
This class instructs students in the methods and procedures on how to conduct and read urban demographics. The class will focus on the consumption of demographic material to make competent, strategic decisions. The class will also require students to conduct mini-research projects to further their understanding of compiling demographic decisions.

URB 340  Significant Urban Service Issues 3 credits
This class is designed to give students a good understanding of several interrelated areas of urban service. The students will learn from practitioners and specialists in each of the following areas: chemical dependency (including detox, intervention strategies, treatment methods, community resources, 12-step programs, etc.), teen pregnancy, prostitution and the sex industry, HIV/AIDS, Homeland Security/INS, domestic violence, narcotics distribution and gangs.

URB 410  Urban Social Psychology 3 credits
This course will cover various phenomena related to social influence - the power of people to affect, persuade, or control the beliefs or behaviors of others. The student will become familiar with fundamental topics in social psychology, such as perception, motivation, attitudes, and attitude change.

URB 420  Intercultural Communication in an Urban Setting 3 credits
This course emphasizes parallels in learning a language and learning a culture in the urban, cross-cultural context. Course assignments and discussions are designed for application in everyday encounters with individuals from other cultures within the city.

URB 430  Urban Economics, Entrepreneurship and Community Development 3 credits
This course is a study of the process of forming and managing a non-profit organization, with a focus on the unique contributions and characteristics of faith-based organizations. Students will spend eight hours on-site at a local ministry non-profit, attending board meeting, interviewing the chief executive and observing programs. Through this field study, students will witness the application of the concepts taught in class and will be asked to assess the various aspects of the non-profit they are studying. In addition, students will develop an overall concept/vision for a non-profit organization they would like to start and will develop a strategic plan and case statement for it.

URB 440  Race and Ethnicity in America 3 credits
In this course students will examine the issues surrounding race relations in the United States. This examination will include some of the history of race relations leading up to the most current racial climate. The class will develop a Biblical grid through which to understand the issues. Students will not only study the issues but also learn to think critically about Christian and secular models currently offered to solve racial problems in our nation. The class will also attempt to recast valuable secular models into Biblical categories. The class will suggest alternative modes of thinking about race relations to those concerned individuals and institutions in our culture.

URB 498  Urban Ministry Fall Internship 3 credits
Supervised experience in a non-profit/ministry in the urban, cross-cultural context. This course requires ministry involvement totaling 50 hours per credit in the area of the student’s emphasis. A weekly internship seminar will guide the student through the entire internship experience.

URB 499  Urban Ministry Spring Internship 3 credits
Supervised experience in a non-profit/ministry in the urban, cross-cultural context. This course requires ministry involvement totaling 50 hours per credit in the area of the student’s emphasis. A weekly internship seminar will guide the student through the entire internship experience.